

Ezekiel 24:25

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Also, thou son of man, shall it not be in the day when I take from them their strength, the joy of their glory, the desire of their eyes, and that whereupon they set their minds, their sons and their daughters,

Analysis

Also, thou son of man, shall it not be in the day when I take from them their strength—God addresses Ezekiel directly (בֵּן־אָדָם, ben-'ādām, 'son of man'). **The joy of their glory** (רִיאֹת, mā'ōz, 'stronghold/fortress'; מִשְׁׁוֹשָׁנָה, měsōs tif'artām, 'joy of their beauty')—metaphors for the Jerusalem temple, Israel's pride and God's earthly dwelling.

The desire of their eyes, and that whereupon they set their minds—אֲשֶׁר־נַפְשָׁתָם (maśśā' naphshām, 'lifting of their soul') indicates deep emotional attachment. The temple was their supreme treasure, like Ezekiel's wife was to him (v. 16). **Their sons and their daughters**—Many died in the siege; others were taken captive. The prophet describes total loss: religious center, family members, homeland—everything that gave life meaning.

Historical Context

Solomon's temple stood from 966-586 BC (380 years). It represented God's presence, covenant faithfulness, and national identity. Its destruction was psychologically, spiritually, and nationally catastrophic. The temple would not be rebuilt until 516 BC—70 years later, fulfilling Jeremiah's prophecy.

Related Passages

Psalm 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Study Questions

1. What 'temples'—things we consider essential to faith—might God remove to teach us deeper dependence?
2. How can losing what we treasure most become a pathway to knowing God better?
3. What does God's willingness to destroy His own temple teach about His priorities?

Interlinear Text

קָרְבָּן יְהוָה בְּיַמִּים אֲלָמָּה בְּנֵי-הָמִין אֲלָמָּה בְּנֵי-הָמִין
H859 Also thou son of man H3808 shall it not be in the day when I take
H1121 H120 H3117 H3947

מְחַמֵּד אֲתָה מִקְמָם אֲתָה מִקְמָם
H1992 H853 from them their strength H4581 the joy H853 the desire
H4261

בְּנֵי-הָמִין אֲלָמָּה עֵינֵיכֶם אֲלָמָּה
of their eyes H853 and that whereupon they set H4853 their minds H5315 Also thou son
H5869 H1121

וּבְנֹתִיּוּם:
and their daughters
H1323

Additional Cross-References

Ezekiel 24:21 (Parallel theme): Speak unto the house of Israel, Thus saith the Lord GOD; Behold, I will profane my sanctuary, the excellency of your strength, the desire of your eyes, and that which your soul pitieh; and your sons and your daughters whom ye have left shall fall by the sword.

Psalms 50:2 (Parallel theme): Out of Zion, the perfection of beauty, God hath shined.

Psalms 48:2 (Parallel theme): Beautiful for situation, the joy of the whole earth, is mount Zion, on the sides of the north, the city of the great King.

Jeremiah 11:22 (Parallel theme): Therefore thus saith the LORD of hosts, Behold, I will punish them: the young men shall die by the sword; their sons and their daughters shall die by famine:

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